

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSC-05

NSCE-00 IO-03 L-01 IGA-01 SP-02 CG-00 AS-01 /042 W

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P R 231220Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3904

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 1335

LIMDIS

DOD FOR ISA, DSAA; CINCEUR FOR J4/J7

DEPT PASS POLAD USCG FOR COMMANDANT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, US, JO

SUBJECT: ROYAL JORDANIAN COAST GUARD

1. FOLLOWING SECRETARY'S RECENT VISIT TO AQABA, KING MENTIONED TO ME HIS INTENTION OF UPGRADING AND IMPROVING RJCG. HE WANTS TO ENLARGE IT FROM PRESENT COMPANY SIZE (250 MEN) TO EQUIVALENT OF A BATTALION. HE NOTED THAT IN AGREEMENT WITH SAUDIS, JORDAN WOULD TAKE ON PATROL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ARAB SIDE OF GULF OF AQABA. HE SAID THAT OFFICERS HAD BEEN WELL TRAINED, MAINLY BY ROYAL HELLENIC NAVY, BUT NOW HE WANTED TO IMPROVE AND ENLARGE THIS ACTIVITY AND HOPED FOR A CLOSER RELATIONSHIP WITH US COAST GUARD. INITIALLY THIS WOULD MEAN ADVISE AND PERHAPS SOME TRAINING.

2. THIS APPROACH FOLLOWED UP IN DETAIL DURING MEETING FEBRUARY 22 BETWEEN LT GENERAL ZAYD BIN SHAKER, JAF CHIEF OF STAFF, AND DATT. BIN SHAKER MADE SPECIFIC  
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REQUEST FOR A USCG SURVEY TEAM. BIN SHAKER SAID A THREE-

WAY ARRANGEMENT IS BEING WORKED OUT BETWEEN SAUDI ARABIA, GOJ AND UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN WITH PERHAPS SOME UN ASSISTANCE TO EXTEND RJCG MISSION INTO RED SEA, PERHAPS AS FAR SOUTH AS JIDDA. MISSIONS WOULD BE THOSE OF SAFETY, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND RESCUE. (KING TOLD ME THAT HE WOULD WANT TO CONSIDER SOMEWHAT LARGER PARTOL BOATS, SINCE PRESENT BERTRAMS DO NOT HAVE RANGE OR SIZE ENOUGH FOR THIS TYPE OF WORK.) RJCG IS ALSO CONSIDERING CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BASE AND A TOTAL REVAMP OF ITS TOE. BIN SHAKER ASKED FOR US OFFICERS TO MAKE AN ASSESSMENT FOR KING AND HIMSELF OF PRESENT CAPABILITIES AND TO OUTLINE WHAT CHANGES, TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT WOULD BE NEEDED TO PERFORM EXPANDED MISSION. THEY ALSO NEED ADVICE ON BASE LOCATION AND DESIGN.

3. GIVEN KING'S PERSONAL INTEREST, BELIEVE WE SHOULD BE AS RESPONSIVE AS POSSIBLE ALONG LINES OF RECENT TEAMS ON AIR-CRAFT AND AIR DEFENSE. WE ARE NOT IN POSITION HERE TO JUDGE WHAT WOULD BE BEST IN TERMS OF LENGTH OF STAY OR PERSONNEL, BUT WOULD ASSUME THAT 2 OR 3 EXPERIENCED USCG OFFICERS COULD FULFILL MISSION IN 2-3 WEEKS. WE WOULD MAKE CLEAR AT OUTSET THAT STUDY MISSION WOULD IMPLY NO CONTINUING OBLIGATION ON OUR PART; HOWEVER, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SAUDIS OR UN MIGHT ASSIST IF FUNDING RELATIVELY MODEST. WE DO ANTICIPATE REQUESTS FOR USCG TRAINING IN CONUS AND POSSIBLY AN MTT UNDER GRANT AID TRAINING PROGRAM.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: STATE AND DAO IN COORDINATION WITH DOI/USCG TO CONSIDER REQUEST AND HOPEFULLY PROVIDE FAVORABLE RESPONSE TO KING'S REQUEST FOR SMALL STUDY MISSION. PICKERING

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY TRAINING, COAST GUARDS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975AMMAN01335  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 AUG 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <12 AUG 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <01 DEC 2003 by KelleyW0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ROYAL JORDANIAN COAST GUARD  
**TAGS:** MASS, US, JO  
**To:** STATE DOD  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006